

## For Immediate Release: June 6, 2023

## STATEMENT: Illinois Latino Agenda Welcomes \$51 Million of Approved City Funding for Migrant Humanitarian Crisis, Acknowledges The Challenges Ahead

**CHICAGO** - The following is a statement from the Illinois Latino Agenda (ILA), a coalition that works to advance the economic, political, and social prosperity of Latino communities throughout Illinois, many of their member organizations provide services to the newly arrived migrants:

"The Chicago City Council's approval of \$51 million in funds to address the migrant humanitarian crisis in our city will help continue necessary support services, shelter, and provide a lifeline for the city and service providers helping migrants.

"We thank Mayor Johnson and the Chicago City Council for honoring our city's commitment of being a Sanctuary City for those seeking refuge. We also want to thank the communities that have helped provide shelter to our newest neighbors and all the frontline workers and service providers that have been stretched thin since the first bus arrived in August.

"This is a humanitarian crisis, which is testing our resolve and compassion as a city and will require cooperation, perseverance and state-wide collaboration to navigate successfully. We look forward to working with the many groups, advocates, and leaders that are seeking to address social inequalities, while healing and unifying our communities.

"Our member organizations will continue working to serve all our community members, and through the Welcome to Illinois Coalition we hope to collaborate with Mayor Johnson to advocate for federal funding to ensure our city has sufficient and adequate resources to support new arrivals in areas such as legal services, housing assistance, mental healthcare, as well as funding for staff to carry out this work."

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